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LETTER DATED 28 APRIL 1994 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF AZERBAIJAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to transmit herewith the letter of 28 April 1994 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Azerbaijan, Mr. Hassan A. Hassanov, addressed to you.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Yashar T. ALIYEV
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

Annex

Letter dated 28 April 1994 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Azerbaijan addressed to the Secretary-General

Allow me to remind you that on 30 April 1994, it will be one year since the adoption by the Security Council of resolution 822 (1993) in response to the invasion and further occupation of the Kelbadjar district of the Azerbaijani Republic by the Armenian armed forces.

Unfortunately, the Security Council has failed to work out a concrete mechanism for the realization of the above-mentioned resolution, namely of the demand for the immediate withdrawal of the Armenian occupying forces from the Kelbadjar district and other occupied regions of Azerbaijan.

Non-compliance by the Republic of Armenia with the relevant Security Council resolutions beginning with resolution 822 (1993), as well as the evident impunity of its aggressive policy, have led to a tragic situation whereby almost 20 per cent of our territory is under occupation by the armed forces of the Republic of Armenia and more than a million inhabitants of Azerbaijan have been ousted from their homes under the threat of imminent extermination, thus becoming refugees in their own homeland.

Meanwhile, innocent people continue to die at the hands of the occupying forces and bloodshed continues. Failure on the part of the international community to undertake timely and effective measures towards the aggressor, namely non-recognition of the Republic of Armenia as the aggressor, has given Yerevan a free hand and allowed it not only not to withdraw its troops from the Kelbadjar district occupied last spring, but also to widen its expansion by means of the consequent occupation of the Agdam, Fizuli, Jebrail, Kubatli and Zangelan districts of the Azerbaijani Republic.

In this connection, it should be remembered that the Agdam district was occupied after the adoption of the same resolution right after the visit to the region of the mission of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, headed by the then Chairman of the Minsk Conference, Mr. Mario Raffaelli. The occupation of the Fizuli, Jebrail and Kubatli districts of Azerbaijan followed the adoption, in July 1993, of resolution 853 (1993) by the Security Council. In November 1993, the Security Council, in its resolution 884 (1993), noted "with alarm the escalation in armed hostilities ... in particular the occupation of Zangelan district".

Non-compliance by the Republic of Armenia with resolution 822 (1993) as well as other relevant resolutions of the Security Council once again demonstrates its genuine plans aimed at dismembering the Azerbaijani Republic and brings to naught all efforts of the international community, including those of such international organizations as the United Nations and the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, aimed at creating favourable conditions for the resumption of a peaceful negotiation process.

It should also be noted that paragraph 4 of resolution 822 (1993), in which the Security Council requested the Secretary-General "to assess the situation in the region, in particular, in the Kelbadjar district of Azerbaijan, and to submit a further report to the Council" also remains unfulfilled.

Continuation of the expansionist policy of Armenia challenges the international community and demands from the latter resolute actions with the use of all available potential in order to end the aggression against the Azerbajani Republic and thus prevent the repetition of the Bosnian tragedy.

The adoption by the Security Council of resolution 822 (1993) on 30 April 1993 aroused in the Azerbaijani people confidence in the authority of the United Nations, as well as hope for help from the international community to a young State defending its independence. One would not like this hope be superseded by the sense of hopelessness and disappointment.

Being confident that you fully share our deep concern caused by the serious threat to peace and security in our region, I would ask you to ensure the implementation of paragraph 4 of resolution 822 (1993) and to dispatch, in the near future, a group of experts from your authoritative Organization to Azerbaijan in order to assess the situation in the Kazakh and Tovuz districts, as well as in all the other occupied districts of Azerbaijan, including the territory of the Nagorny Karabakh region of our Republic.

(Signed) Hassan HASSANOV